

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-21 were previously pending, with claims 1 and 22 being independent claims. In the subject Office action, claims 1-14 and 16-21 were allowed and claim 15 was rejected.

Allowed Claims

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication that claims 1-14 and 16-21 are allowed.

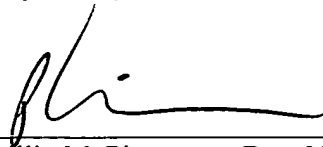
Claim 15

With respect to claim 15, Applicants appreciate the Examiner's careful review and his indication of a potential lack of clarity in the claim. The Examiner recommended an appropriate modification for the claim, and claim 15 has been amended to incorporate the suggested change. It is respectfully submitted that this claim is now in condition for allowance.

*Conclusion*

Applicants respectfully submit that the patent application is in condition for allowance. If, for any reason, a telephone conference is needed, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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Phillip M. Pippenger, Reg. No. 46,055  
LEYDIG, VOIT & MAYER, LTD.  
Two Prudential Plaza, Suite 4900  
180 North Stetson Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois 60601-6780  
(312) 616-5600 (telephone)  
(312) 616-5700 (facsimile)

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